

JUMPING FROM PINE ROCK

THE DEATH OF THE WIFE OF PROF. WALDO.

ELUDING HER NURSE AND WANDERING
AWAY—YALE PROFESSORS, AND STUDENTS JOINING IN THE SEARCH.

NEW-HAVEN, Conn., Feb. 19.—Early this morning it was reported at Police Headquarters that the wife of Prof. Waldo, of the Yale Observatory, while laboring under a fit of temporary insanity had wandered away from her home, at No. 459 Prospect-street. After hours of search her body was found at the bottom of Pine Rock, two miles from this city, late this afternoon. Mrs. Waldo had come to her death by jumping from the top of the rock. She was about 35 years old. She had been in delicate health for some time and had been constantly attended by a nurse. She passed last night without sleep until 4 o'clock this morning, when her eyelids closed, as did those of her nurse, who, worn down with fatigue, did not wake until about two hours and a half later. When she did wake Mrs. Waldo was gone. No one had seen her leave the house and she left no trace. The police were informed, and Chief Bailman sent out Detectives Brewer and Reilly to find the missing lady if possible. They searched the northern outskirts of the city thoroughly, but early in the afternoon reported at headquarters that they could find no trace of Mrs. Waldo. A general alarm was sent out.

Prof. Bendelari dismissed his class of Yale Seniors at 2 o'clock, asking their assistance in the search. Most of the other afternoon recitations were given up, and the students started out with the Professors to scour the woods and fields around East Rock, a steep pile of trap rock 450 feet high, just outside of the city. One small party called at a farmhouse and ascertained that a lady who had acted strangely had asked the owner for a loaf of bread and inquired the way to Pine Rock, a steep, rocky hill between the big rocks, East and West, which frown down upon the city. The searchers hurried on toward Pine Rock, and were met by a child, who told them that Mrs. Waldo had been found. Following his directions they came upon the unfortunate lady lying at the bottom of the quarry at the base of Pine Rock. With her were her nurse, from whom she had escaped, and another woman. These two had discovered her first sitting on the top of the rock above the quarry, her feet dangling over the edge. Mrs. Waldo was gesticulating wildly and crying out at the top of her voice. The nurse and her companion started straight for her, climbing up the steep ascent. Mrs. Waldo saw them and either fell or threw herself from the summit. Her skull was fractured and she died 15 minutes later. There can be no doubt that she was temporarily insane.

Mrs. Waldo's maiden name was Fullerton. She was a Philadelphian and a niece of ex-Judge Fullerton. Last Summer her sister, Miss Fullerton, visited her, and with her went one day to Double Beach. There is a high rock close by the water's edge at one point on the beach. Miss Fullerton climbed to the top of the cliff and, before the people near her knew what she was doing, jumped into the water. She was severely injured by the fall, one of her legs being broken, and she died in this city some days afterward. Temporary insanity was given as the cause of her act. Prof. Waldo is one of the best known of the Yale Scientific Professors. He is a Harvard graduate and has been connected with the observatory here for four years. During the transit of Venus, in 1883, he did some excellent scientific work with the new instruments which had just been put into the observatory. The results of his observations were widely published and are regarded as of great value to scientists. His affection for his wife was deep and he has always manifested the most tender care for her welfare. Mrs. Waldo leaves two children.